

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 GAC-01

TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 MC-02 OMB-01 EB-11 ACDA-19

RSR-01 /131 W

----- 016622

O 091729 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1048

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 5408

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SA, UK

SUBJECT: REPORTED SALE OF BRITISH AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM
TO SAUDI ARABIA

REF: STATE 877 47; JIDDA 1922

1. FCO ME DEPT HEAD CONFIRMS STORY ESSENTIALLY
CORRECT IN SUM OF 250 MILLION POUNDS STERLING (ABOUT
\$625 MILLION) OVER PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS.

2. MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING SIGNED MAY 7 AND WILL BE
PRESENTED TO PARLIAMENT TOMORROW, MAY 10. IT CALLS
FOR MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT OF AIRCRAFT WITH ASSOCIATED
TRAINING, VISUALIZING THAT ROYAL SAUDI AIR FORCE WILL
PROGRESSIVELY TAKE OVER THESE FUNCTIONS FROM BAC.
AGREEMENT ESSENTIALLY A CONTINUATION OF EARLIER (AIRWORKS
AND BAC) CONSORTIUM ARRANGEMENT, NOW UNDER BAC. OTHER
COMPANIES WILL BE ASSOCIATED AS SUBCONTRACTORS FOR
CONSTRUCTION, ETC.
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3. AS DEPT INFERS, THIS INVOLVES LIGHTNING AIRCRAFT
AMONG OTHERS, AS WELL AS OPERATION OF KING FEISAL AIR
ACADEMY AND DHAHRAN TRAINING INSTITUTE.
ANNENBERG

CONFIDENTIAL

NMAFVVZCZ

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 02 APR 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LONDON05408
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730558/abqcdzjj.tel
Line Count: 56
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 877 47; JIDDA 1922
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03-Aug-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <09-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORTED SALE OF BRITISH AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM TO SAUDI ARABIA
TAGS: MASS, SA, UK
To: STATE INFO JIDDA
KUWAIT
TEHRAN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005